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GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN, BRISBANE. BULLETIN NO. 9 OF 1948.

PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, NOVEMBER, 1947.

This bulletin has been prepared from detailed tabulations, made available by the Commonwealth Statistician, of unemployed persons in Queensland who were in receipt of Commonwealth unemployment benefit at the end of November, 1947. The information covers only those persons actually in receipt of unemployment benefit, no account being taken of those whose applications for benefit are awaiting consideration or those who do not apply for benefit. The figures given, therefore, are only a part of total unemployment, although the proportions due to the various causes and in the various industries are broadly applicable to the total. Persons receiving sickness or special benefits are also excluded.

Comparison with Previous Months.

The November figures of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit were 1,664 males and 70 females, the total of 1,734 being 1930 below the corresponding figure for the previous November.

End of Month.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
		1946.			1947.	
October ..	2,814	86	2,900	1,827	80	1,907
November ..	3,570	94	3,664	1,664	70	1,734
December ..	5,971	168	6,139			
		1947.				
January ..	7,262	228	7,490			
February ..	7,394	198	7,592			
March ..	6,505	184	6,689			
April ..	4,698	149	4,847			
May ..	3,935	151	4,086			
June ..	3,102	129	3,231			
July ..	2,747	113	2,860			
August ..	2,089	97	2,186			
September ..	1,912	87	1,999			

In November, 1946, the State total of persons in receipt of unemployment benefit was increasing towards the seasonal peak which occurred early in 1947, but in 1947 the total still continued to decline in November. Seasonal unemployment in the northern sugar districts had commenced to increase in October, 1947, and this increase continued in November, but a decrease in casual workers unemployed, and in the numbers unemployed through establishments being closed, reduction of staff etc., particularly in the Brisbane area, more than offset the increase in seasonal unemployment. In November, 1947, the Brisbane total of 811 was 29 per cent. less than in October, 1947, which month had the lowest total previously recorded for Brisbane, and it was less than half the number in November, 1946.

The number of females receiving benefit at the end of November was 70, compared with 80 for October, and 94 a year earlier.

Causes of unemployment are given on the next page for the months of November, 1946, February, 1947 (the peak month), October and November, 1947, together with the increase or decrease during November, 1947, for each cause.

Cause of Unemployment.	November, 1946.	February, 1947.	October, 1947.	November, 1947.	Increase (+) or Decrease(-) in November.
Medical unfitness for type of work, work too heavy ..	116	100	49	42	-7
Inefficiency, incompetence	113	144	70	52	-18
Establishment closed, reduction of staff ..	595	854	368	279	-89
Replaced by re-instated servicemen	120	131	45	36	-9
Shortage of materials ..	171	252	76	55	-21
Seasonal work and weather conditions	727	3,327	273	396	+123
Casual work	520	958	337	282	-55
Discharged or laid off for other reasons	428	514	164	142	-22
Quitted because work too heavy, medically unfit, etc. ..	286	440	267	240	-27
Quitted for other reasons	197	324	113	104	-9
Not previously employed ..	391	548	145	106	-39
	3,664	7,592	1,907	1,734	-173

Apart from "Seasonal Unemployment", all causes recorded decreases during November, 1947. These decreases more than offset the increase in seasonal unemployment, and the State's unemployment total fell by 173.

Compared with figures of a year earlier (November, 1946), all causes showed very substantial decreases. Even the number unemployed because of seasonal work or weather conditions, which, as has been stated, was increasing in November, 1947, was only a little more than half as large as a year earlier - 396 compared with 727. All other causes, except "Quitted" for various reasons, and "Casual Work", showed figures less than half as great as in November, 1946.

The following statement shows the number of persons drawing benefit in each district in November, 1946, November, 1947, and in the intervening month showing the highest level of unemployment, together with the decrease from November 1946, and from the seasonal peak to November, 1947. Most districts showed figures in November, 1947, substantially less than the corresponding figures a year earlier.

District.	November, 1946.	Peak Month of Unemployment during 1946-47.	November, 1947.	Decrease November, 1946 to November, 1947.	Decrease Peak to November, 1947.
Brisbane ..	1,650	2,065 (Feb. 1947)	811	839	1,254
Ipswich ..	149	190 (Dec. 1946)	18	131	172
Gympie ..	16	30 (Feb. 1947)	5	11	25
Maryborough	176	221 (Jan. 1947)	16	160	205
Bundaberg ..	288	596 (Jan. 1947)	23	265	573
Toowoomba ..	108	177 (Feb. 1947)	48	60	129
Warwick ..	23	42 (Dec. 1946)	26	3(a)	16
Roma ..	8	24 (Dec. 1946)	7	1	17
Charleville	53	75 (Dec. 1946)	17	36	58
Rockhampton	345	1,462 (Jan. 1947)	225	120	1,237
Emerald ..	3	10 (Jan. 1947)	4	1(a)	6
Longreach ..	38	117 (Dec. 1946)	21	17	96
Mackay ..	256	861 (Mar. 1947)	107	149	754
Ayr ..	19	233 (Feb. 1947)	25	6(a)	208
Townsville ..	171	616 (Mar. 1947)	205	34(a)	411
Ingham ..	8	440 (Mar. 1947)	3	5	437
Innisfail ..	37	368 (Mar. 1947)	3	34	365
Cairns ..	179	599 (Mar. 1947)	40	139	559
Charters Towers	90	182 (Feb. 1947)	113	23(a)	69
Atherton ..	41	78 (Mar. 1947)	14	27	64
Hughenden ..	6	52 (Feb. 1947)	3	3	49
Total State	3,664	7,592 (Feb. 1947)	1,734	1,930	5,858

(a) Increase.

Causes by Districts.

The appended table (No. 1) shows the main causes of unemployment in each district. Moreton numbers were the highest in any district in November, 1947, but they represented a proportion of the district population below the State average. Comparison of the rates per 10,000 population showed the highest figure for the North-West Districts, closely followed by the Central and North-Coastal Districts. The increase compared with October in the North-Coastal Districts was due to seasonal displacement of sugar workers in the Mackay and Townsville Districts. The South-East Coastal Districts showed the lowest rate, followed by Downs and South-West, which, as in October, were low on account of the almost complete absence of seasonal unemployment in these areas.

Industries by Districts.

Table No. 2 shows the industries in which those drawing benefit were normally engaged. Food and Drink had the highest total (24 per cent. of the total drawing unemployment benefit), followed by Building and Construction (13 per cent.) and Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying (10 per cent.). All industries with the exception of Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying, and Food and Drink showed decreases when compared with October. Food and Drink factories increased from 346 to 421, and Agricultural, Pastoral and Dairying from 142 to 165.

The most significant change in district totals during October, was an increase in unemployed persons who were previously employed in Food and Drink factories in the North-Coastal District, whose numbers increased from 48 in October to 189 in November.

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ACTING GOVERNMENT STATISTICIAN.

BRISBANE.

27th February, 1948.

TABLE 1. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

NOVEMBER, 1947.

DISTRICTS AND CAUSES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

DISTRICT.	Discharged or Laid Off.								Quitted.		Not previously employed.	Total.	
	Medical unfitness for particular type of work, work too heavy, etc.	Inefficiency, incompetence.	Establishment closed, reduction of staff, permanent retrenchment.	Replaced by re-instated servicemen, relieving worker only.	Shortage of materials.	Seasonal work and weather conditions.	Casual work.	Discharged or laid-off for other reasons.	Medical unfitness, work too heavy, medical advice.	Quitted for other reasons.		Number.	Per 10,000 population.
Brisbane	27	40	165	23	34	37	136	79	150	54	66	811	
Ipswich ..	.	.	.	.	.	1	4	3	2	5	3	18	
Moreton ..	27	40	165	23	34	38	140	82	152	59	69	829	15
Gympie ..	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	.	2	.	.	5	
Maryborough	.	.	1	2	.	4	4	2	2	1	.	16	
Bundaberg	.	.	4	.	3	6	3	1	2	1	3	23	
S.E.Coastal	.	1	5	2	4	10	8	3	6	2	3	44	4
Toowoomba	.	.	8	1	4	1	11	9	9	3	2	48	
Warwick ..	1	2	4	.	.	2	9	3	2	2	1	26	
Roma ..	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	2	.	1	.	7	
Charleville	.	.	1	.	.	9	6	.	.	.	1	17	
Downs & S.W.	1	2	13	1	4	13	29	14	11	6	4	98	7
Rockhampton	2	1	35	3	5	94	24	16	19	16	10	225	
Emerald ..	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	1	.	.	1	4	
Longreach	.	2	1	.	.	10	2	1	5	.	.	21	
Central ..	2	3	36	3	5	106	26	18	24	16	11	250	25
Mackay ..	3	1	4	1	2	43	26	9	10	5	3	107	
Ayr ..	1	.	5	.	.	15	1	1	1	1	.	25	
Townsville	3	4	24	5	3	114	10	10	20	8	4	205	
Ingham ..	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	1	.	.	3	
Innisfail	.	.	1	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	3	
Cairns ..	1	.	10	.	.	25	2	.	.	1	1	40	
N. Coastal	8	5	44	6	5	200	40	20	32	15	8	383	25
Charters Towers ..	4	1	14	1	2	26	33	3	15	5	9	113	
Atherton ..	.	.	1	.	.	3	5	2	.	1	2	14	
Hughenden	.	.	1	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	3	
North West	4	1	16	1	3	29	39	5	15	6	11	130	29
TOTAL STATE	42	52	279	36	55	396	282	142	240	104	106	1,734	16

TABLE 2. - PERSONS RECEIVING UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, QUEENSLAND.

NOVEMBER, 1947.

DISTRICTS AND INDUSTRIES.

DISTRICT.	Industry in Which Last Engaged.														TOTAL.
	Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairying.	Other Primary (including Mining).	Engineering.	Food and Drink.	Other Factories.	Building and Construction.	Shipping and Wharf Work.	Transport.	Wholesale.	Retail.	Previously Employed by Australian or Allied Services.	Personal and Domestic Service.	Discharged Servicemen.	Other Industries.	
Brisbane ..	23	13	76	84	73	66	33	44	58	50	96	56	24	115	811
Ipswich ..	1	2	1	.	1	7	.	.	.	1	.	1	1	3	18
Moreton ..	24	15	77	84	74	73	33	44	58	51	96	57	25	118	829
Gympie ..	1	.	1	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	5
Maryborough	2	.	.	4	.	2	3	.	.	4	.	1	.	.	16
Bundaberg	10	.	1	3	.	8	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	23
S.E.Coastal	13	.	2	7	1	11	3	.	.	4	.	2	.	1	44
Toowoomba	6	.	3	4	1	6	.	3	3	4	4	7	1	6	48
Warwick ..	6	1	1	2	.	12	.	1	1	.	.	1	.	1	26
Roma ..	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	2	.	1	.	1	.	.	7
Charleville	12	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2	1	.	.	1	.	17
Downs & S.W.	25	1	4	6	1	21	.	6	6	6	4	9	2	7	98
Rockhampton	17	6	6	105	9	29	11	7	2	10	1	8	2	12	225
Emerald ..	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	.	4
Longreach	16	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	3	.	.	21
Central ..	34	7	6	106	9	29	11	8	2	12	1	11	2	12	250
Mackay ..	15	2	2	42	5	18	7	.	1	2	.	7	1	5	107
Ayr ..	9	.	1	10	.	3	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	25
Townsville	14	1	9	122	6	24	3	.	6	2	6	9	1	2	205
Ingham ..	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3
Innisfail	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	3
Cairns ..	11	2	.	15	.	5	3	1	1	1	.	.	.	1	40
N.Coastal	52	6	12	189	11	51	13	1	8	7	6	17	2	8	383
Charters Towers ..	15	10	3	28	3	29	.	3	.	2	15	1	2	2	113
Atherton ..	1	3	.	1	1	5	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	14
Hughenden	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	3
North West	17	13	3	29	4	35	.	4	1	3	16	1	2	2	130
TOTAL STATE	165	42	104	421	100	220	60	63	75	83	123	97	33	148	1,734

29 JAN 1948

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